AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

On page 10, replace the paragraph beginning at line 7 with the following paragraph.

--Cationic liposomes used for the encapsulation of pCI-HA10 were prepared using a modification of a procedure described by Wheeler et al., *supra*. Briefly, liposomes consisting of 7% 1,2-dioleoyl-3-dimethylammonium chloride (DODAC, Avanti Polar Lipid Inc., Alabaster, AL.), 78% 1,2-dioleoyl-sn-glycerol-3-phosphoethanolamine (DOPE, Avanti Polar Lipid Inc.) and 15% polyethylene glycol C8 ($PEG_{2000}C_8CER$, Norther Lipid Inc., Vancouver, BC) were used at 10 mg/ml concentrations. The lipid film was formed at 50°C using a rotaevaporator (Buchi Rotavapor R110, Brinkman, Rexdale, ON), and then incubated at 50°C for 2 h under vacuum. The lipid film was reconstituted with distilled water and 1M β-octylglucanopyranoside (OGP, Sigma, Mississauga, ON) detergent at 20% of the total preparation volume. The plasmid DNA was next added to the lipid film ~~at a concentration of 400 µg DNA/ml of 10 mg/ml~~. The amount of plasmid DNA added to the lipid film was 400 µg total DNA and the total volume of plasmid DNA added to the lipid film was 1 ml. The reconstituted preparation was transferred into dialysis tubing (Spectra/Por, MWCO: 12-14,000, Spectrum Laboratories Inc., Rancho Dominguez, CA) and dialyzed in 1X HEPES buffer solution (150 mM NaCl, 20 mM Hepes, pH 7.4) at 23°C for 15 h. The free, non-encapsulated DNA was removed from encapsulated DNA on a DEAE Sepharose CL-6B (Sigma) anion exchange column. Encapsulation recovery ranged from 38.0% to 57.0% (data not shown). The liposomes preparations were concentrated using Aquacide II™ (Calbiochem, La Jolla, CA) and polyethylene glycol MW 10,000 (Sigma) and then dialyzed in 1X HEPES for an additional 2 h at 23°C. Particle size analysis of liposome encapsulated DNA was performed using a Zetqasizer 3000™ (Malvern Instruments, Point Roberts, Wash.).--